

Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, May 7, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on government secrecy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 7, 1997 at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing on S. 507, the Omnibus Patent Act of 1997.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session on the Senate on Wednesday, May 7, 1997 at 2 p.m. to hold a judicial nominations hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 7, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for an oversight hearing on SBA's finance programs on Wednesday, May 7, 1997, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 7, 1997, at 2 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on the nomination of George J. Tenet to be Director of Central Intelligence.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SPACE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Science, Technology and Space of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Technology be authorized to meet on May 7, 1995, at 2 p.m. on the National Science Foundation and Technology Administration fiscal year 1998 budgets.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure be granted permission to conduct a hearing Wednesday, May 7, 9:30 a.m., on the reauthorization of the

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act [ISTEA] and safety issues and programs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, it is my pleasure today to express my deep gratitude and pride in recognizing the Wenatchee National Forest as a recipient of the Salvage Sale Showcase Award under the U.S. Forest Service's Fiscal Year 1995 Timber Salvage and Recovery Program.

The Wenatchee National Forest encompasses 2.2 million acres of Washington's finest forest lands—lands providing for an abundance of recreational activities and employment and resource opportunities for Washington State residents. In July 1994, however, a lightning storm followed by a severe fire, threatened to suddenly demolish this majestic landscape within days.

When the last flame had been extinguished, the damage was daunting. Three fires of unprecedented intensity had consumed 186,000 acres of Wenatchee National Forest lands, destroying 37 homes and 76 outbuildings and threatening the lives of human beings who had dared to cross its massive path. Firefighters from various parts of the country, 8,000 in all, fought valiantly to save the precious resources endangered by runaway wildfires. It is to their credit that so many homes, communities, and human lives are intact today.

Determined and resolute, the employees of the Wenatchee National Forest went to work. Less than 2 months after the first spark ignited, the largest emergency rehabilitation effort ever undertaken by the Forest Service was launched with the cooperation of other Federal, State, county, and local agencies. The rehabilitation effort addressed and executed projects which included erosion control, road rehabilitation, wildlife habitat, helicopter seeding, and collaborative learning. The effort was successfully completed by mid-November 1994, for \$18 million—\$2 million under budget.

With the worst behind them, Forest managers looked ahead toward long-term forest health and sustainability. Interdisciplinary teams consisting of personnel from all six ranger districts combined their knowledge and know-how to develop the necessary environmental documents. Within 11 months, these teams assembled an astounding 10 environmental analyses and 1 environmental impact statement. Science-based decisionmaking rendered a total of 22 timber sales, resulting in landscape level fuel treatment on over 30,000 acres. Nearly 138 million board feet of fire killed or damaged timber was offered for sale.

Salvage was the key to this vision. Removing dead and dying trees pro-

vided the much needed opportunity to reduce stress and preserve larger, healthier trees. In addition, salvage logging in the Wenatchee has enhanced wildlife habitat and supported the perpetuation of ancient forest conditions. Mr. President, it is for this very reason that I sponsored timber salvage legislation in the spring of 1995. Not only was the forest able to begin healing and promoting catastrophic fire prevention through salvage operations, it was also able to provide a significant amount of timber for the public benefit.

In conclusion, I want to congratulate and commend the efforts of all of those who contributed to the successful and innovative restoration of the Wenatchee National Forest. Their accomplishments over the past 3 years are proof positive that we can effectively balance environmental and economic concerns in our national forests if we give local forest managers the flexibility they need to do their jobs. The employees of this forest are outstanding examples of the teamwork desperately needed throughout our national forest system. Because of their professionalism, tenacity, and courage, the Wenatchee National Forest is on its way back to health and sustainability. My congratulations to them on a job well done. Keep up the good work.

WEST VIRGINIA MOTHER OF THE YEAR, KELLY L. GEORGE

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, it is my great honor today to rise to congratulate Kelly L. George of Cabell County in West Virginia. Kelly has been selected by American Mothers, Inc., as the West Virginia Mother of the Year, and I commend them for their choice.

As a father of four children, I know how important it is to have a strong mother figure in the family, and Kelly is exactly that for her family. She continues to instill the value of high academic achievement to her children Vincent, Victor, Valerie, Von, and Vanessa. She works very hard to provide a spiritual foundation for her children, and she also takes on the enormously important task of teaching strong family values.

But this is not all that Kelly George does. Like my wife Sharon, Kelly balances her tasks as a mother with her duties in an active career. Kelly has an impressive list of accomplishments outside the household. She is on the Thomas Hospital Board of Trustees, is a Kanawha County Parks and Recreation Commissioner, and chair of the West Virginia Board of Risk and Insurance Management. She is also a life member of General Federation of Women's Clubs and the National Committee of State Garden Clubs, as well as international chair for the Pilot International World Association. On top of all this, she is a legislative analyst, a historian, and the author of "Rhythms, Remembrances and Recipes."